

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A lens comprising[[:]]
a first face;
the first face comprising a ~~concentric~~ channel around a ~~circumferential-peripheral~~
edge of the lens; and
a second face;
the second face comprising a ~~concentric~~ projection around the ~~circumferential~~
peripheral edge of the lens;
wherein when at least two lenses are stacked upon each other, the ~~concentric~~ projection of the
second face of a first lens engages the ~~concentric~~ channel of the first face of a second lens,
preventing relative movement between the first lens and the second lens; and
maintaining a gap between the second face of the first lens and the first face of the second
lens.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The lens as described in claim 1, wherein
at least a portion of the first face comprises an optical surface; and
the ~~concentric~~ channel further comprises:
a first wall; and
a second wall; wherein
the first wall and the second wall form the bounds of the ~~concentric~~
channel; and
at least one of the first wall and the second wall projects above the optical
surface;
wherein the optical surface of the first face is protected from scratches and other damage
when the lens is set upon a generally flat surface.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The lens as described in claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the second face comprises an optical surface; and the ~~concentric~~ projection projects above the optical surface; wherein the optical surface of the second face is protected from scratches and other damage when the lens is set upon a generally flat surface.

4. (Currently Amended) A knob assembly comprising[[:]]
a knob;
the knob containing a generally cylindrical cavity formed by ~~a contiguous~~an interior wall of the knob;
the interior wall further comprising at least one key protruding into the cavity; and
a shaft with a generally cylindrical first end, the first end of the shaft further comprising[[:]]
at least one concentric barb formed substantially around the first end of the shaft, wherein the circumference of the barb is slightly larger than the circumference of the cavity; and
at least one keyway is formed in the barb to accept the key in the knob cavity, wherein the keyway interrupting-interrupts the contiguity-continuity of the at least one concentric barb;

wherein when the key in the cavity and the keyway on the shaft are aligned, the knob may be pushed upon the first end of the shaft, the first end of the shaft ~~thereby filling-fills~~ the cavity, ~~and the interface of the at least one barb with the interior wall of the knob inhibiting~~ inhibits the knob from being pulled off the shaft, and the interface of the at least one key and the at least one keyway ~~preventing-prevents~~ the knob from rotating relative to the shaft.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The knob assembly as described in claim 4, wherein the knob is constructed of a minimally compressive, elastomeric material.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The knob assembly as described in claim 5, wherein the elastomeric material comprises rubber.

7. (New) The knob assembly as described in claim 4, wherein the at least one concentric barb comprises a plurality of concentric barbs.

8. (New) A knob assembly comprising
a knob constructed of a minimally compressive, elastomeric material, the knob containing a generally cylindrical cavity formed by an interior wall of the knob; and
a shaft with a generally cylindrical first end, the first end of the shaft further comprising
at least one concentric barb formed substantially around the first end of the shaft, wherein the circumference of the barb is slightly larger than the circumference of the cavity; and
at least one keyway is formed in the barb, wherein the keyway interrupts the continuity of the at least one concentric barb;
wherein when the knob is pushed upon the first end of the shaft, the first end of the shaft fills the cavity, the interface of the at least one barb with the interior wall of the knob inhibits the knob from being pulled off the shaft, and the interface of the at least one keyway with the interior wall of the knob prevents the knob from rotating relative to the shaft.

9. (New) The lens as described in claim 1, wherein
the lens is circular;
the channel is concentric with the center of the lens; and
the projection is concentric with the center of the lens.

10. (New) The lens as described in claim 1, wherein the channel is adapted to support a bezel and to separate an edge of the bezel from the optical surface of the first face.

11. (New) The lens as described in claim 2, wherein
the second wall is bounded by the first wall; and
an interior side of the second wall forms a beveled edge angled to support a bezel and to separate a front edge of the bezel from the optical surface of the first face.

12. (New) The lens as described in claim 1, wherein
the second wall is bounded by the first wall;
the first face and the second face comprise opposing sides of a lens body; and
at least a portion of the first wall extends beyond a peripheral edge of the lens body.

13. (New) A light plate composed of a highly internally refractive material, the light plate comprising

a generally flat main body with a front side and a back side;
a circumferential rim extending normally from a peripheral edge of the front side of the main body;
a projection extending normally from the back side of the main body;
the projection further defining an aperture, wherein the projection forms a continuous wall around the aperture; and
wherein when a light source emits light within the aperture, the contiguous wall collects the emitted light, the emitted light is transmitted through the main body to the circumferential rim, and the emitted light exits the circumferential rim above the front side of the main body.

14. (New) The light plate of claim 13, wherein a front edge of the circumferential rim is beveled backward toward an outer wall of the circumferential rim, wherein light is reflected by the beveled back edge toward the main body.

15. (New) The light plate of claim 13, wherein a back rim of the contiguous wall around the aperture is beveled, wherein light is reflected by the beveled back rim toward the main body.

16. (New) The light plate of claim 13, wherein a front rim of the contiguous wall is beveled and transitions to the front side of the main body, wherein light is reflected by the beveled front rim into the main body.

17. (New) The light plate of claim 13, wherein a peripheral edge of the back side of the main body is beveled and transitions to an outer wall of the circumferential rim, wherein

18. (New) The light plate of claim 13, wherein the main body is circular.

19. (New) The light plate of claim 13 further comprising at least one tubular projection normal to the front side of the main body, wherein

the at least one tubular projection defines a hollow channel for receipt of an instrument control shaft; and

the emitted light further travels through the main body and into the at least one tubular projection.

20. (New) The light plate of claim 19, wherein at least a portion of the at least one tubular projection is a bearing surface for the instrument control shaft.

21. (New) The light plate of claim 19, wherein a rim of the at least one tubular projection is beveled and light is reflected by the beveled rim into the hollow channel of the at least one tubular projection.